

THE MISSOURI VAUCHERS

**DESCENDANTS OF
FRÉDÉRIC G. VAUCHER
1850 (NEUFCHATEL) – 1913 (ST. LOUIS)**

4 GENERATIONS

TO MY FAMILY

Here is a history of our family. To put it together I have relied upon these sources: Family members (grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, cousins), the Census Records of the United States Government, The Directory of the City of St. Louis, The Directory of the county of St. Louis. In those instances where I have thought it necessary, I have given the source of the information. My hope is that you will add to this history. In that way it will become continuous and go on for a long time.

Best Wishes

Armand Vaucher

Christmas
December 25, 1993

[Note: this document was sent to me - Jean Vaucher - in dec. 2003 by
Marc Vaucher, 801 Court Rd. Fulton MO 65251]

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THE NAME VAUCHER

The Name VAUCHER is derived from the last two syllables of the French verb, chevaucher. According to the dictionary chevaucher means "be astride" or "to ride on Horseback".

Our early ancestors must have been engaged in an occupation which required them to ride horses.

(Source: my grandmother; Berthe Vaucher)

1.0 Frédéric G. Vaucher

BORN: Neuchâtel, Switzerland May 7, 1850

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri June 29, 1913

MARRIED 1874

1.1 Berthe Hortense Andrié

BORN: Neuchâtel, Switzerland May 7, 1853

DIED: San Francisco, California February 19, 1952

THEIR CHILDREN:

2.1 Julia

BORN: Neuchâtel, Switzerland 1875

DIED: San Francisco, California late 1920's

2.2 Leon

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1877

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri August 26, 1943

2.3 Daisy Martha

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri May 12, 1878

DIED: San Francisco, California January 14, 1955

2.4 Gustave Henri

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri February 8, 1880

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri January 1, 1936

Frédéric G. Vaucher was born May 7, 1850, in Neuchâtel, Switzerland. After his basic education, he served an apprenticeship in the watch-making industry. In 1869, when he was nineteen years old he came to the United States. Frederic Vaucher is listed for the first

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time in the St. Louis Directory (1870) as a watchmaker, employed by Eugene Jaccard & Co. He probably had some contact with this company before coming to this country; the following advertisement is from the St. Louis Directory of 1871:

EUGENE JACCARD & Co.
Manufacturers of
WATCHES AND MUSICAL BOXES
FACTORY, STE. CROIX, SWITZERLAND
ESTABLISHED 1836
300, 302, & 304 N. Fifth, Corner Olive

In late 1873, or early 1874, Frederic Vaucher returned to Switzerland, and in 1874 he married Berthe Hortense Andrié, who was born in Neuchâtel on May 7, 1853. Their first child, Julia, was born in 1875, and later that year Frederic Vaucher returned to the United States, this time with his wife and their daughter.

Frederic Vaucher is listed in the St. Louis Directory of 1876 as an employee of Mermod, Jaccard & Co., which was on Fourth St., northwest corner of Locust. In 1877 he was in business with Louis M. Weinert. In the residential section of the Directory there is this listing:

Vaucher & Weinert
(Frederic G. Vaucher and Louis M Weinert)
Jewelers 803 Washington Ave.

This listing is in the business section:

VAUCHER & WEINERT
803 Washington Ave.

This association apparently lasted a year, or so, because the above listings occur, only in the 1877 Directory.

Frederic G. Vaucher maintained jewelry stores and watch repair facilities during the years 1880 to 1913 at the following addresses: 807 N. 9th, 510 N. 12th, 507 N. 12th,

503 N. 12th, and 213 N. 14th.

T.R. Vaucher mentioned in an Email (dec. 2003): *The large clock in the St. Louis railroad station-GATE WAY TO THE WEST- was made by a Vaucher.*

Frederic seems to be the most likely candidate! [NDLR. Jean Vaucher].

Frederic and Berthe Vaucher maintained homes at the following addresses:

1511 Papin
800, 802, 821 Morgan
4540 Evans
4740 Vernon
3024 Franklin
4643, 5032, 5076 Page
4732 McMillan

As far as I know, all of these properties were rented.

Frederic and Berthe Vaucher spoke French in their home. As a consequence all of their children spoke French. Their first grandchild, Frederic Cowen, spent so much time in their midst that he, too, learned French as a child.

Frederic G. Vaucher died on June 29, 1913, his death caused by septicemia (blood poisoning) which developed because of a carbuncle on his neck. He is buried in Valhalla Cemetery, 7600 St. Charles Rock Road, St. Louis.

The following death notice appeared in the St. Louis Globe Democrat and in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on June 30, 1913. It also appeared in the St. Louis Star on July 1, 1913.

VAUCHER, Entered into rest at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Julia V. Cowen, 6017 Etzel Avenue. Sunday, June 29, 1913,

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at 1:30 p.m. Frederick G. Vaucher, dearly beloved husband of Bertha Vaucher and dear father of Mrs. Julia V. Cowen, Leon, Daisy, and Gustave Vaucher. In his 64th year. Funeral will take place on Tuesday, July 1, at 2:30 p.m. from funeral parlors of George L. Pletsch, 5964 Easton Avenue, Interment Private.

The following obituary appeared in the St. Louis Daily Globe Democrat, Thursday morning, July 1, 1913.

F.G. VAUCHER DEAD AT 63
EXPERT WATCHMAKER WAS AUTHORITY ON
BOOKS, PAINTINGS, AND BOTANY

Frederick G. Vaucher, 63 years old, known to thousands of residents of St. Louis and adjacent territory as an expert on fine watches and clocks, died Sunday afternoon after a week's illness.

He was born in Neuchatel, Switzerland, and came to America in 1870. He was married in 1874. He had an intimate knowledge of delicate timekeeping instruments. He was considered an authority on rare books, paintings, botany, and horticulture.

He is survived by his widow Mrs. Bertha Vaucher, two daughters, Mrs. Eugene Cowan and Miss Daisy Vaucher, and two sons, Leon and Gustave Vaucher. He had lived with Mrs. Cowan at 6017 Etzel Avenue.

1.1 Bertha Vaucher

In 1924, or 1925, Bertha Vaucher left St. Louis with her daughter, Daisy, to live in San Francisco, California. The two of them returned to St. Louis only once for a visit during September, 1940. During her years in San Francisco, Bertha tutored university students in French. She died on February 19, 1952, a few months short of her 99th birthday.

The photographs on the following page are:

BERTHA VAUCHER

The large studio photograph was taken in San Francisco, California. The snapshot was taken in mid-September 1940 on her visit to St. Louis.

2.1 Julia Vaucher

BORN: Neuchatel, Switzerland, 1875

DIED: San Francisco, California Late 1920's

MARRIED 1895

Eugene H. Cowen

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri, 1872

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri, 1916 (?)

THEIR SON:

Frederic C. Cowen (U.S. Army, World War I)

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri November 2, 1896 (or 7)

DIED: San Francisco, California November 2, 1948

Eugene H. Cowen was a realtor, associated with Carter, Cowen, Evers Realty Co., 925 Chestnut St., St. Louis. One of the areas he helped to develop is the area bounded by Delmar, Skinker, Pershing, and Des Peres.

The last address for this family in St. Louis is 6152 Pershing. (Footnote of St. Louis History: Pershing was named Berlin Avenue when the Cowens moved there. Shortly after the entry of the United States into World War I, the name of the street was changed to Pershing and has so remained.) In the St. Louis Directory of 1920 both Julia and Frederic Cowen are listed as employees of the United Railways Company, which operated the street-cars at that time. She is listed as a stenographer; he as a bookkeeper.

In 1922, or 1923, Julia and Frederic Cowen left St. Louis to live in San Francisco, California. In the late 1920's Julia Cowen was struck by an automobile and died within a short time. Frederic

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Cowen continued to live in California; he was a practitioner and an organist in the Christian Science Church. In 1931, or 1932, he returned to St. Louis for a visit with family and friends. He died in a Christian Science Sanitarium on November 2, 1948.

2.2 Leon Vaucher

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1877

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri August 26, 1943

MARRIED

Kate L. Chedayne

BORN: Indiana, 1878

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri August 17, 1938

THEIR DAUGHTERS

Olivia

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1899

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri Between 1911 - 1920

Julia L.

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1902

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri May 16, 1953

Julia married Leo R. Cummiskey their Children:

Thomas,
Julia Lee,
Jane,
Leo R. Jr.,
Walter

Josephine H.

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1904

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri

married Walter R. Douglas their son: William

Leon Vaucher went to work as a mail clerk for the St. Louis Post Dispatch when he was sixteen years old. In the St. Louis Directory of 1899 he is listed as a clerk working for the U.S. Post Office. He spent the rest of his working career with the Post office, retiring as a postal inspector.

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Leon and Kate Vaucher had homes in St. Louis on North 9th, North 17th, Franklin, and Morgan Streets. In 1918 or 1919 they moved to Kirkwood and lived there the remainder of their lives. Their last residence was at 720 5. Geyer Road.

The photograph on the following page shows four generations in the Vaucher family.

1. Bertha Vaucher
2. Leon Vaucher
3. Josephine Vaucher Douglas
4. William Douglas
5. Their daughter

2.3 Daisy Martha Vaucher

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri May 12, 1878

DIED: San Francisco, California January 14, 1955

During her working career in St. Louis, Daisy Vaucher is listed in the St. Louis Directory as a clerk or a stenographer. The only employer listed is the Board of Election Commissioners.

In 1924 or 1925, Daisy Vaucher left St. Louis with her mother to live in San Francisco, where she continued to work as a stenographer. She spent the rest of her life in San Francisco, having returned once to St. Louis in September 1940, to visit family and friends.

(Her Certificate of death shows date of birth May 12, 1892, and age 62 years. Both of these facts are incorrect. Correct date of birth is given above.)

2.4 Gustave H. Vaucher

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri February 8, 1880

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri January 1, 1936

Gustave H. Vaucher was married twice before he married Adele Bracher.

First Wife: Carrie Herzig

SON: Frederic Vaucher

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri 1904

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri 1961

Second Wife: Lillian (?)

Daughter: Elise

MARRIED (3rd wife)

Adele A. Bracher

BORN: Sunnyside, Jefferson County, Missouri July 25, 189

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri September 11, 1968

THEIR CHILDREN:

3.4.1 Dorothy Lois

BORN: Sunnyside, Jefferson County, Missouri October 23, 1909

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri April 5, 1960

3.4.2 Sidney Jules (U.S. Army World War II)

BORN: Sunnyside, Jefferson County, Missouri March 13, 1917

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri March 14, 1970

3.4.3 Eugene Gustave (U.S. Army World War II)

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri June 9, 1920

DIED: Fulton, Missouri, June 15 1998

3.4.4 Armand Alexandre (U.S. Army World War II)

BORN: Granite City, Illinois June 5, 1922

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri, December 13, 2001

3.4.5 Aline Adele

BORN: Sulphur Springs, Missouri August 13, 1926

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri July 30, 1966

Gustave Vaucher is listed as a lineman and a telegraph operator in the St. Louis Directory of 1900 and 1901. In following

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editions of the Directory he is listed as an electrician. In the 1920's he worked as a supervisor with the Barber Asphalt Company in Granite City, Illinois. During the last years of his life he delivered special delivery letters and packages for the U.S. Post Office. This was his job during the depression years, and he was paid ten cents (10¢) for the delivery of each item.

Gustave and Adele Vaucher lived for a time in her parents' home at Sunnyside, Jefferson County. After that they had the following residences: 1109 North and South (today Brentwood Boulevard), Sulphur Springs, Jefferson County, Missouri 5452 Gilmore Aye, Midland Blvd, 69th Street) 2307 Yeoman, and 2533 Verona.

When she became a widow, Adele Vaucher worked in the Recorder's office in the St. Louis County Courthouse. She copied deeds, and other documents which required recording into large books. Her neat penmanship helped her in this job.

Adele Vaucher was also an expert with a thread and needle. She made many of her own clothes and did some quilting, especially baby quilts. Her embroidery work was meticulous. She was so expert in crocheting that she could copy an item from a photograph, not even needing the instructions. I once asked her how long she had been sewing and crocheting. Her response was, "I don't know. I can't remember being without a thread and needle in my hands. My earliest memory is sitting alongside my grandmother and sewing."

GUSTAVE VAUCHER'S Kindergarten Class 1885 JEFFERSON SCHOOL
(Back row, third from left)

3.4.1 Dorothy L. Vaucher

BORN: Sunnyside Jefferson County, Missouri October 23, 1909

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri April 5, 1960

Dorothy Vaucher spent most of her working years at the St. Louis County Courthouse. She worked for one of the title companies, and then she worked for a number of years in the Assessor's Office. Few could match her typing skills; her fingers flew over the keys.

Dorothy was active in the political affairs of the Republican Party in St. Louis County. She held several offices in the Business and Professional Women's Association. Dorothy was a mainstay of the family during the Depression years.

3.4.2 SIDNEY J. VAUCHER

BORN: Sunnyside Jefferson County, Missouri March 13, 1917

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri March 14, 1970

MARRIED March 3, 1950

Ruth Engelken

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri December 6, 1922

DIED: St. Louis, Missouri June, 1992

THEIR DAUGHTER:

Gayle Elise

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri February 24, 1951

MARRIED April 22, 1989

Robert Steven Fogarty

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri May 26, 1956

Sidney J. Vaucher is listed in the St. Louis Directory in 1938 as a parts clerk at the General Motors Truck and Coach Division. He spent a number of years working at General Motors. It was here that he met Ruth Engelken. They were married on March 3, 1950.

They maintained homes in St. Ann and in Crestwood. Sid was interested in mechanical things and could make repairs on automobile engines.

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3.4.3 EUGENE G. VAUCHER

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri June 9, 1920

DIED: Fulton, MO, June 15, 1998

MARRIED August 17, 1946

Betty Jane Tucker

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri August 29, 1927

THEIR CHILDREN:

Eugene B.

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri April 17, 1947

Cheryl

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri October 4, 1948

Marc A.

BORN: St. Louis, Missouri January 4, 1951

Eugene G. Vaucher spent most of his working years in the vehicular maintenance department of the Ferguson Florissant School District. After their marriage in 1946, he and Betty built a house at 1270 Tee Vee Lane in Ferguson, where they reared their family. In 1981 (?) they moved to Fulton, Missouri, where Eugene worked for several years at the Union Electric Power Plant.

3.4.4 ARMAND VAUCHER

BORN: Granite City, Illinois, June 5, 1922

DIED: St. Louis, MO, December 13, 2001

Thanks to the generosity of his family and of scholarships, he was able to finish high school and to go to college at Centre College, Danville, Kentucky. He eventually became a teacher of Latin, French, and English. He retired in 1987. [Note: Armand is the one responsible for the family history you are reading]

(I chose this picture because it shows me with my constant companion Felix the Cat. I can't remember carrying him around, but Mom told me that I did and that I wouldn't allow my picture to be taken without him.)

3.4.5 ALINE VAUCHER

BORN: August 13, 1926

DIED: July 30, 1966

MARRIED December 17, 1949

Lloyd E. Tucker

BORN: April 21, 1918

DIED: October 31, 1986

It hardly seems natural to write Aline and Lloyd. Neither of them was ever called by her/his given name. They were known as Puzzy and Boots. Puzzy received her nickname as a baby. At the time she was born, there was a comic strip called Barney Google. Barney and his wife had a baby named Puzzums. One day our father remarked that our baby looked like Puzzums in the funny papers we adapted it to Puzzy, and that's what she was called until the day she died.

She and Boots lived in a subdivision in Berkeley. Boots spent his working career at Lincoln Engineering Company. Puzzy was a stenographer, and she, too, could type so fast you could hardly see her fingers. One favorite memory of her is her ability to sing. Although she had no professional training, she sang beautifully. She often sang solos at church services, and a number of her contemporaries invited her to sing at their weddings.

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